

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
with Ferrin Cox

The battle continues in Montgomery over... money of all things. What the outcome will be as Governor Riley tries to balance the General Fund obligations, Education obligations, etc. is still up in the air. However, right now Riley is winning the public relations battle against AEA's Paul Hubbard. This doesn't mean he is winning with the re-election sensitive legislators, but don't sell the governor short in that department either. Right now Riley is taking the debate to the people of Alabama and making some mighty strong inroads. At the same time Hubbard's resistance has more and more people quietly telling us that the AEA position is a self-inflicted "gimmie" argument. Surprising are the staunch education supporters who have never, ever uttered such words before but are muttering those sounds now.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham announced Monday evening that Friday the 18th is "Police Up Elba Day". He expects to have a host of help from the Elba Work Release helping with this work. Grantham even said that if additional work days are needed to get the job done, it will happen. A large number of Elba citizens will welcome this effort. Of course, it would not hurt if those of us who like a clean town would bend over and pick up a few pieces of paper ourselves.

Tuesday of this week was the day Governor Riley announced as the day for signing the new Open Meetings Law which recently unanimously passed both houses of the Alabama Legislature. We were invited to Montgomery for the 2 p.m. ceremonies and photo op which followed. Alas an already overworked newspaper staff would probably have gone on strike had the grumpy old publisher gone off rubbing elbows with the movers and shakers of this state... on a busy Tuesday anyway.

Those who expect this new law to solve all the world's problems are going to be disappointed. There will still be misunderstandings, misinterpretations and those who think they are smarter than the law. Mostly what this new open meetings law does do is clear up broad statements from the old law which have come to mean different things to different people. However, there are some sharper teeth in it also. One example is that members of governing bodies which are caught meeting in secret can face hefty fines... personally, not the taxpayer body they represent. Plus any action they might take in these illegal meetings can be declared null and void. The new law will become effective on October 1st. This is designed to give the various governing bodies of the state time to educate their members on the first changes in this law in almost 100 years. Needless to say we have rooted for this new law for the past several years. Oh yes, both Representative Terry Spicer and Senator Jimmy Holley were co-sponsors of the bill. Attorney General Troy King helped draft the bill and joined a broad coalition of supporters from all across Alabama, in working hard for its successful passage.

Scattered reports keep drifting in on the well being of the Elba National Guard troops in Iraq. They have gotten to their duty station, north of Baghdad and are about settled into the routine. Their job is manning those frightening, horrible, but vital, highway check points. Our prayer is that they have learned their job well and that God is watching over them - every hour of every day. This is not asking God to take sides in any war, only asking that he protect the lives of those who are so special to each of us.

Technology is a great thing. It has made work and life easier in many ways. Technology has created many enjoyable things which wouldn't have been possible without the added benefits it has afforded. However, there are awesome down sides. We faced a major one last week. Our newspaper printer had computer problems which lasted right on past print time for a whole bunch of South Alabama daily and weekly newspapers. Nothing could be sent to their office over the computer network. Yet when we physically carried the data to their computer room on CD's, their computers wouldn't talk to each other nor to the printing plate making equipment. That meant NOTHING constructive happened until long after midnight. Even then it was done by patchwork computing which "the book" says is impossible. Anyway a whole bunch of publishers were sitting around the printer's office until midnight offering free advice on something that is far more complex than our brains will ever understand. But we were not alone in that department as "experts" from several states were baffled. It took a Tuscaloosa man with a Bible PhD to offer a successful patch for the problem - and over the telephone. No, he didn't just pray about it, but had gotten into computers to earn college money. It apparently was like a natural calling. Oh, the praying was done by all the aforementioned publishers facing the ever growing threat of missed deadlines.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

Alabama's two college savings programs collectively exceed \$1 billion mark

In conjunction with Higher Education Day, State Treasurer Key Ivey proclaimed Alabama's two college savings programs have collectively exceeded the \$1 billion mark in assets. The Alabama Higher Education 529 Fund had total assets of \$223,293,442 as of December 31, 2004. The Prepaid Affordable College Tuition (PACT) Program had total assets of \$688,341,848 at year end.

Ivey stated, "Today is a day to celebrate the importance of higher education in Alabama. I am so proud that Alabama parents are taking part in the PACT Program and the Higher Education 529 Fund to save for college expenses. These programs can be used together to help lighten the burden of paying for tuition, room and board, books and other student fees."

Through the PACT Program, a contract may be purchased to pre-pay 135 hours of tuition and eight semesters of qualified fee payment at any Alabama public college or university for children in ninth grade or below. PACT may also be used as private or out-of-state institutions based on a weighted average of state tuition costs. Flexible plans are available to pay for the contract that is priced according to the age of the student.

PACT is based on a simple concept - pay today for tomorrow's tuition," said Ivey. "With college tuition skyrocketing, it is important for families to plan now to send their children to college in the future."

The newer Higher Education 529 Fund, sponsored by the State of Alabama and professionally managed by Van Kampen

Investments, allows investors to contribute to an individual account within the 529 Trust Fund. Investors choose from several investment options and later use the investment results of that particular account to pay for college expenses in addition to tuition and fees, such as room and board and books.

Contributions to a Higher Education 529 Fund account can also be used to pay for graduate school expenses, as well as undergraduate costs. Individuals can enroll at any time as little as \$250, or \$25 a month. Investing in the direct-sold product provides Alabama residents special incentives such as lower minimum contributions, and no transaction and enrollment fees. The Alabama Higher Education 529 Fund recently received a five-star rating for performance from

Investforcollege.com. For more information on PACT and the Higher Education 529 Fund call the State Treasurer's Office toll-free at 1-800-252-7228 or log on to the website at www.treasury-alabama.gov.

BULLETIN BOARD

• **ABUSING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES THROUGH CHRIST A.R.M.S.** addition recovery ministry services - Thurs. 7 p.m. - Ino Baptist Church. Call 565-9970 or visit the website www.inobaptist.com.
• **ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP** - every Tuesday at 6 p.m. - Shiloh Baptist Church of Elba - Call 897-5037 for more information.
• **SOCIAL SECURITY REP** Courtbook: 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call PRES. 1-800-772-1211.
• **ROTARY CLUB** - Tuesday @ Noon-First First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.
• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Monday 6 p.m. City Hall.
• **WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday following 2nd Monday 6 p.m. - City Hall.
• **ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN.** - Tues. 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
• **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church enter on side on W. Davis St. Maggie Garrett Classroom.
• **COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION** - 2nd & 4th Monday Community Room in Farm Center Complex of New Brockton.
• **LIONS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Tues. 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center.
• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 2nd Tues. 5:30 p.m. - Supt. Office.
• **AMERICAN LEGION** - 1st Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall - Troy Hwy.
• **MASONIC LODGE** - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month 7 p.m. - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School.
• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. 3 p.m. - Club House.
• **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn - Enterprise.
• **ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 2nd Thursday at noon, Driscoll Hanger at the Airport.
• **AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month.
• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - 1st & 3rd Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room.
• **NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB** - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

This space made possible by: National Security Insurance Co.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Mar. 7, 2005, investigated the following incidents: one driving under the influence, one narcotics activity, one identity theft, one theft of property, one harassment, one domestic violence, two for burglary, one criminal trespassing and one harassing communications.

The following arrests were made: one for driving under the influence and one for failure to appear.
Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for an open container, one for no insurance, one for driving with a suspended driver's license, one for no proof of insurance, one for running a stop sign, one for speeding and one for reckless driving.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, MAR. 7 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 187 County Rd. 434 (1:53 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to the Christian Mission (7:59 a.m.); Minor wreck reported in the parking lot at

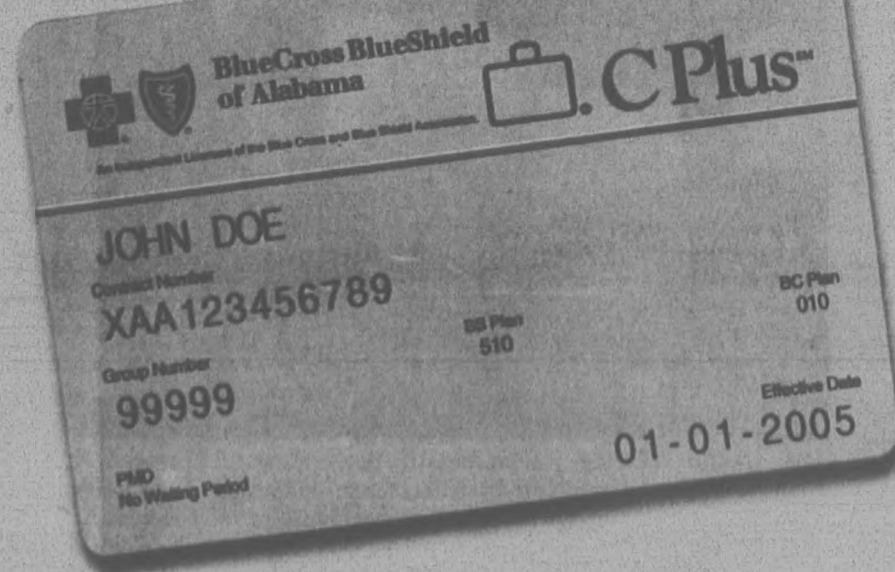
Elba High School (3:06 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported near the intersection of Hwy. 125 and Herman Driggers Dr. (5:05 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1033 Martin Luther King Dr. (9:19 p.m.).
TUESDAY, MAR. 8 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to County Rd. 109 (8:26 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the Elba Police Department (12:22 p.m.).
WEDNESDAY, MAR. 9 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 2801 Old Curtis Rd. (9:38 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 4183 County Rd. 205 (10:02 a.m.).

THURSDAY, MAR. 10 - River stage - 6:59 feet (7:15 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to assist the New Brockton Fire Department with a house fire at 418 E. McKinnon St. (3:46 p.m.).
FRIDAY, MAR. 11 - Robbery reported at Elba Villas, Apt. C-3 (12:20 a.m.); River stage - 7:38 feet (7:00 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched in response to a fire alarm at

Toledo Molding and Die (9:38 a.m.); Minor accident reported near Old Samson Rd. (3:45 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1549 Reese Ave. (5:09 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1209 Farris Ave. (7:27 p.m.).
SATURDAY, MAR. 12 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1403 Smith Ave. (12:56 a.m.); River stage - 6:79 feet (7:00 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to County Rd. 114 (10:40 a.m.); Fight in progress reported at 617 Mullins Circle (4:18 p.m.).
SUNDAY, MAR. 13 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 558 County Rd. 420 (6:19 a.m.).

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Obituaries

EDWARD LEE MARLER

Mr. Edward Lee Marler, age 75, of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, March 9, 2005 at his residence in Elba.

Funeral services were held March 12, 2005 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Reverend Hubert McWaters and Reverend Ray Smalls officiating. Burial followed in the Richburg Cemetery, New Brockton, Ala.

Survivors include his wife: Betty Merl Marler, Elba; two daughters: Barbara Arwood, Newton, Ala., Rhonda Dillinger, Vale, N.C.; and two grandchildren.

PAUL PARKER

Mr. Paul Parker, age 70, of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, March 9, 2005 at Enterprise Nursing Home in Enterprise, Ala.

Funeral services were held March 11, 2005 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Gene Wesley officiating. Burial followed in the New Home Cemetery, Elba, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Parker was preceded in death by his father, Marvin Parker. Survivors include his son: Paul Keith Parker, Lamont, Fla.; his daughter: Paula Denise Griner, Perry, Fla.; his mother: Gertrude Parker, Elba; and four grandchildren.

LAMAR CLEO GRANT

Mr. Lamar Cleo Grant, age 75, of Henderson, Ala., died at Friday, March 11, 2005 at his home.

Funeral services were held March 13, 2005 at Dillard Funeral Home Chapel in Troy with Rev. Tom Senn and Rev. W.O. Sanders officiating. Burial followed at Green Hills Memorial Park in Troy. Memorial contributions may be made to Wiregrass Hospice or to the American Cancer Society.

Survivors include his wife:

Collene Grant, Henderson; two sons: Ricky (Teresa) Grant, Luverne; Rex (Nell) Grant, Troy; one sister: Ann (Gene) Maule; one brother: Gilmer (Shirley) Grant; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

WAYNE TALBOT BROWN SWAIN

Mrs. Wayne Talbot Brown Swain, age 92, of Jack, Ala., died Saturday, March 12, 2005 at the Elba Nursing Home Elba, Ala.

Funeral services were held March 14, 2005 at Zion Chapel Baptist Church with Rev. Jimmy Eddins and Rev. Ray Stinson officiating. Burial followed in the Zion Chapel Cemetery, Jack, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Lucy Hunter Talbot; father, Harold Columbus Talbot; husband, Lucy Eugene Brown; and husband, Harold Gordon Swain.

Survivors include one son: Michael Scott (wife, Sue) Brown; and one grandson: Levi Scott Brown, all of Jack, Ala.

MATTIE LEE DISMUKES

Mrs. Mattie Lee Dismukes, age 82, a resident of Panama City Beach, Fla. and Pompano Beach, Fla. and formerly of Enterprise, Ala., died Sunday, March 6, 2005 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Graveside services were held March 11, 2005 in Meadowland Cemetery with Dr. Frank Wells officiating and Patterson Sorrells Funeral Home directing.

Her husband, Louis Herman Dismukes Sr., preceded her in death.

Survivors include one daughter: Lynn Ann DiScullo, Pompano Beach; one son: Louis Herman Dismukes Jr.; Inlet Beach, Fla.; four sisters: Peggy Brunson, Dothan, Ala.; Anne Phelps, Enterprise, Pat Boswell,

Birmingham, Ala.; Therese McCarty, Dothan; two brothers: Roy Fuller, Melba Ann (David) McLeod, and son, Fuller, both of Elba, Ala.; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

OTHA D. FARRIS

Mr. Otha D. Farris, age 74, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, March 13, 2005, at his residence. Funeral services were held March 15, 2005 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Minister George Herring officiating. Burial followed in the Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery, Elba. The Farris family requests in lieu of flowers contributions be made to Wiregrass Hospice of Enterprise c/o P.O. Box 31103 Enterprise AL 36631.

Survivors include his wife: Miriam Jeanette Farris, Elba; one son: James Phillip (wife, Susie) Farris, Elba; sisters: Betty Bryan and Eloise Kirkpatrick, Columbus, GA.; Shirley Averett, Watkins, LA.; Rita Faye Dubiser, Patricia Mauldin, Joyce Skinner and Wanda Gail Machiotte, all of Elba; and two grandchildren.

CLARENCE GRADY RHODES

Lt. Clarence Grady Rhodes, USN (Ret.), age 97, of Pensacola, Fla., died Sunday, March 13, 2005 at a local nursing home.

Graveside services were held March 11, 2005 in Meadowland Cemetery with Dr. Frank Wells officiating and Patterson Sorrells Funeral Home directing.

Her husband, Louis Herman Dismukes Sr., preceded her in death.

Survivors include one daughter: Lynn Ann DiScullo, Pompano Beach; one son: Louis Herman Dismukes Jr.; Inlet Beach, Fla.; four sisters: Peggy Brunson, Dothan, Ala.; Anne Phelps, Enterprise, Pat Boswell,

He was born on August 22, 1907 in Elba, Ala. and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1926, rising through the ranks to earn a commission in 1942. He was a Pearl Harbor Survivor, and during World War II, he served at sea in almost every major campaign in the Pacific Theater of Operations.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, March 18, 2005 at New Ebenezer Baptist Church, Curtis, Ala. Burial will follow in the church cemetery directed by Faith Chapel Funeral Home, Pensacola, Fla. The family request no flowers. Please make memorial contributions to the charity of choice.

CARD OF THANKS

KING FAMILY

We are deeply appreciative for the many acts of kindness shown during the recent illness and death of our Aunt Mary King. All the calls, visits, cards, flowers, and food preparation were very comforting to us.

We cherish the loving spirit that was expressed at such a sad time.

The family of Mary Prescott King

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He was preceded in death by his wife, Gedie Rowe Rhodes, his daughter, Melba Ann (David) McLeod, and son, Clarence G. Rhodes Jr.

Survivors include his sister: Odessa Rainey, Wauchula, Fla.; his son: William D. (Sandra) Rhodes, Pensacola; six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

WAYLON VAUGHAN ADKINSON

Mr. Waylon Vaughan Adkinson, age 73, a native of Elba, Ala., being born in the Bethany Community to the late D. B. and Eleanor Vaughan Adkinson, died Monday, March 14, 2005 at his residence in Elba.

Mr. Adkinson served two years in the United States Army during the Korean conflict. With the exception of his military time and approximately 10 years, he lived in Elba, a town he truly loved. He and his family owned and operated Adkinson's Big Bear

Supermarket for over 32 years. Funeral services were held at Westside Baptist Church on Wednesday, March 16, 2005 at 2 p.m. with Rev. Bobby Holladay officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Bettye Lashley Adkinson, Elba; two sons: Steve (wife, Charlotte) Adkinson, Richard (wife, Becky) Adkinson, both of Elba; one daughter, Donna (husband, Tim) Ballard, Elba; one sister: Peggy (husband, Ed) Gullion, Elba; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife:

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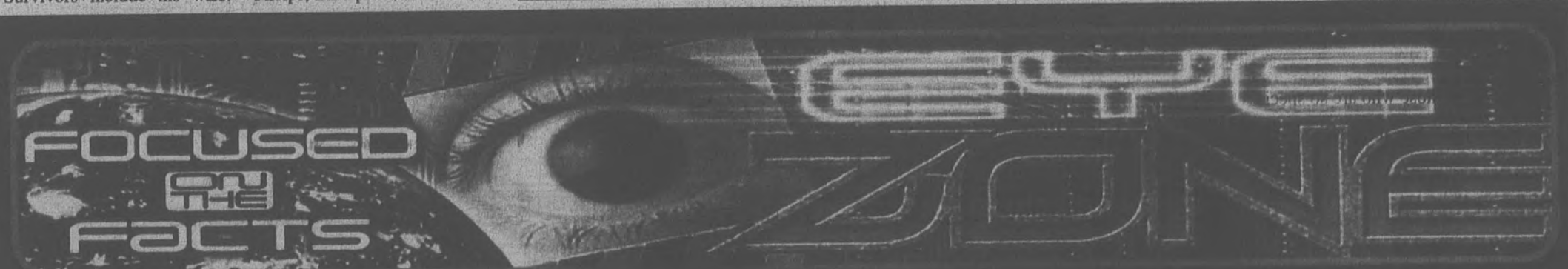
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... JUST THE FLU

"I had a little bird
its name was Enza
I opened the window
And in it came."
1920's Children's Rhyme

During World War I, 116,545 American soldiers died in twenty months. During World War II, 291,557 soldiers died in four years. During the Vietnam War, 58,226 Americans died in ten years. During four weeks in 1918, influenza killed 200,000 Americans, and then kept on killing. Before it stopped in 1919, it killed over 600,000 Americans. Around the world, it killed more than 40 million people.

It started innocently enough. On the morning of March 11, 1918 Albert Gitchell, an Army cook at Fort Funston Kansas, reported to sickbay with a bad cold. Within a week, 522 soldiers were sick, and Gitchell was dead. Of the others, forty-five died. But, no one really paid any attention. After all, with thousands of men living in close quarters, people got sick.

That spring, American troops flooded into Europe. Unknown to the soldiers, they carried the flu virus with them, and it spread across Europe faster than the troops. As it raced across the continent, people from Russia to Spain fell ill. So many Spaniards got sick that people began calling it the Spanish flu. In Spain, people called it the French flu. Seventy thousand American soldiers got sick, and as many as 25,000 died.

By the fall, peace was in sight and soldiers began returning to their homes around the world. As they did, they took the flu virus with them. In America, the second wave started on the East Coast. New York, Boston, and Philadelphia all saw their first cases in mid-September. Only four weeks later, 12,192 Philadelphians were dead. By the end of the year, the flu killed nearly half a million people across.

Around the world, it took only weeks for returning soldiers and sailors to turn an epidemic into a pandemic. In India, the flu killed as many as 16 million people. In England, it killed 228,000 and in Germany 400,000 died. The disease killed people quickly, sometimes within hours, but always with cruelty.

"As their lungs filled... the patients became short of breath... After gasping for several hours they became delirious and incontinent, and many died struggling to clear their airways of a blood-tinged froth that sometimes gushed from their nose and mouth."

Isaac Starr, medical student
University of Pennsylvania

As quickly as it had arrived, it left. In 1919, the flu just went away. No one found a cure, so no one knows why it stopped. Nor do they know if it will come back.



Camp Funston influenza ward. Through the National Museum of Health and Medicine.

Find out more. Take the Web Journey.

Next Week: The Arab World Unites

IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK!

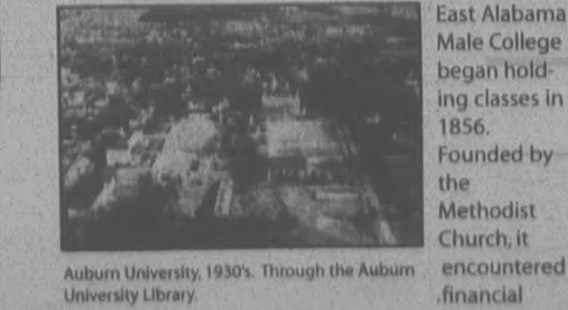


Photo by William H. Stockbridge. Through the USMA Library.

Both Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant, Civil War commanders of the Confederate and Union forces respectively, were graduates of this school. Located fifty miles north of New York City on the banks of the Hudson River, Congress created it on March 16, 1802 and its graduates include many of our most famous military leaders. What is the name of the school? Do you want more information or need to find the answer?

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/4kw9a>

ALABAMA FAST FACT



Auburn University, 1930's. Through the Auburn University Library.

1872 and, on March 20, college control passed to the state. The school name was changed to the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama, and then to Alabama Polytechnic Institute in 1899. Finally, in 1960, it became Auburn University. Learn more about Auburn at <http://tinyurl.com/4exru>

The Influenza Pandemic of 1918

Originally created in 1997 by Molly Billings of Stanford University, this resource is an overview of the effects of the pandemic in the United States. It includes graphs that illustrate the severity of the outbreak, details of the medical and public health responses, and primary source documents.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/vs01>

The Pennsylvania Gazette: Flu

This 1998 article from the University of Pennsylvania's alumni magazine offers a detailed history of the 1918 epidemic and its effects on Philadelphia. The article focuses on the September-October 1918 period, when the disease quickly spread through Philadelphia and across Pennsylvania.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/7xszn>

Influenza 1918

This PBS resource is the online companion to a film that is part of the American Experience series. It includes a timeline, a map of the epidemic's rapid spread, an overview of efforts to fight the outbreak, and biographical sketches of the primary medical figures.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/3qsh7>

We thank our partners for their commitment to our community, our schools, and our young people. Together, we ensure teachers and students receive all learning materials at no cost to them. E-mail your questions or comments to editor@elbaclipper.com.

SCHOOLS

E.H.S. Co-Op Spotlight

by Kayla Kelley



This week's Co-Op Spotlight is Miss Ashton Grimes.

Ashton is the 17-year-old daughter of Bryan and Anita Grimes. She is employed at the Elba Chamber of Commerce where she has worked for the past nine months. Her job description includes clerical assistant and secretary work. This senior is very involved at Elba High School. Ashton is the FFA vice-president and VICA reporter. She is also involved in the Marching Tiger Band color guard, Spanish club and Girl Scout Troop #200. Ashton's future plans are to attend Troy University and major in nursing. Congratulations, Ashton, on being this week's Co-Op Spotlight. Keep up the good work!

EES celebrates President's Day

by Kristi Spinks

In celebration of President's Day, EES posted a fundraiser they called "Pennies For President". The competition was between the classes on each end of school. The students brought in pennies from home, then each class' donation was weighed by pounds and the winners were determined by who

Tiger Tales

Editors: Casey Medlock & Kayla Kelley

EHS Student Spotlight

by Tori Brooks

This week's Student Spotlight is Adam Spicer.

Adam is the 17-year-old son of Ricky and Kathy Spicer. He is a senior at Elba High School. Adam is very involved in Sr. Beta, FFA, baseball, football, and a Student Council Representative.

His hobbies include hunting, fishing, working on cars, mud riding and carpentry. Adam would describe himself as dependable, cool and friendly.

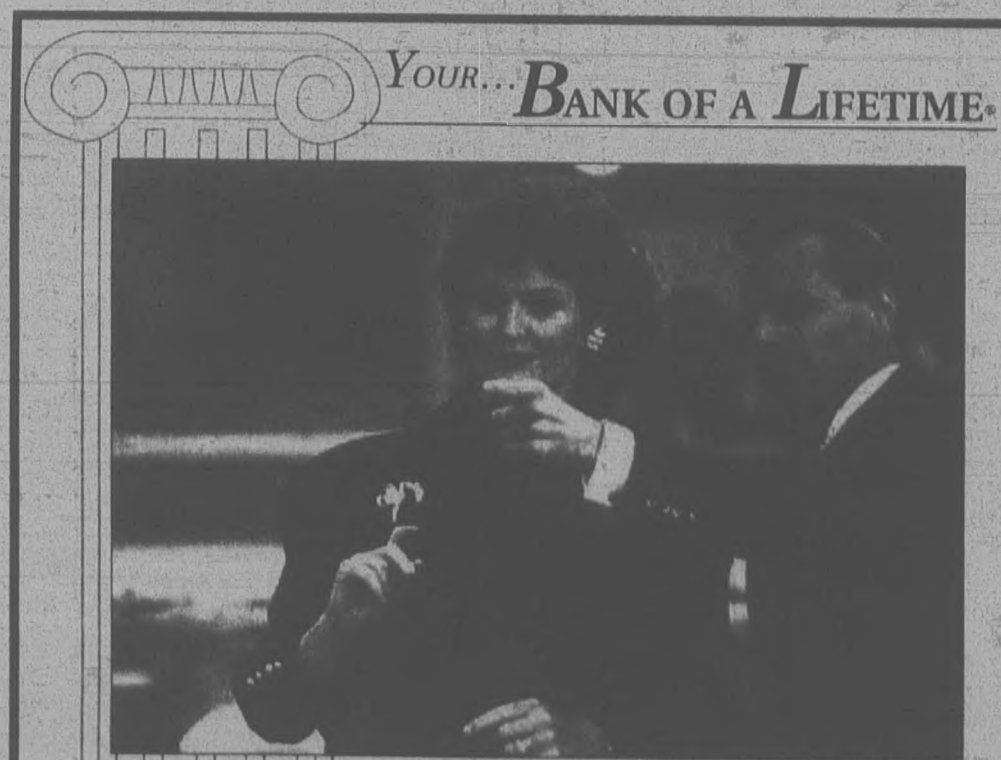
After graduation, Adam plans to attend Aviation School and achieve his degree in avionics, then attend a four-year college.

Upcoming Events at E.E.S.

March 17 - Student Break (students with no absences and all A's)
March 18-25 - Spring Break
April 4-15 - SAT Testing
April 5-6 - Kindergarten Registration
April 18 - School Holiday
April 19 - Teacher Inservice
April 26 - Grandparents Day

President's Day

had the most pounds of pennies at the end of the competition. The competition was very fierce, especially in the higher grades, but the winner was Mrs. Kathy Piliand's class with 78 pounds and in the lower grades it was Mrs. Pam Smith's class with 35.5 pounds. Each winning class gets a prize of \$50. Overall the students did a very good job at participating and making this fundraiser possible.



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MEMBER FDIC

Ashleigh Waddail meets famous author

by Gale Olson

Each year Mrs. Pattie's English class participates in the "To Kill A Mockingbird" essay, which requires each student to explain how the South has changed, positively or negatively, from the story's setting to the present.

After all the essays were completed, one essay was chosen to be sent to the University of Alabama's Honors College. This year's essay belonged to Ashleigh Waddail.

Ashleigh and her mother were cordially invited to join all other contestants for lunch and an awards ceremony at noon on Jan. 28, 2005 at the President's Mansion on the University's campus. The awards ceremony followed, and each essay writer received a certificate and a \$100 check.

Mrs. Harper Lee, herself, did attend and afterwards met with all of the contestants at the library to sign books. "This part was extremely special to me not only because I

Did You Know?

by Stephanie Corder

Did you know that frogs can live equally well in water and land.

A frog can change the color of its skin depending on its surrounding.

Under the water, an extra transparent eyelid called a nictitating membrane protects a frog's eyes.

Frogs use a variety of ways to attract a mate such as courtship calls, body color, and limb movements.



PICTURE OF THE WEEK (by Kristi Spinks)...Dreaming of Spring Break...

Elba Elementary Talent Pool students perform play

by Casey Medlock

Mrs. Butler's Talent Pool classes worked for weeks to perform two plays on Thursday, March 4. One play, entitled "Cinderella Around the World" was performed at Elba Elementary School in order to boost "Read Across America," a program that celebrates Dr. Seuss' birthday. During the play, several members of the faculty read different versions of the familiar Cinderella story from all around the world. The children sang songs with familiar themes and entertained everyone.

Another play was performed at the high school, the same day. It was called "The Emperor's New Clothes," also presented to celebrate the wonderful author's birthday.

Both plays succeeded in providing lots of laughs and entertainment to students and parents alike. Congratulations to all the

Talent Pool students on their amazing performances!

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH, EDUCATION & LOCAL SCHOOLS

LBW Ensemble performs for schools

by Jennifer Grissett



LBW Ensemble performs at Elba High School

Photos with the Easter Bunny!

English Photography will be taking photos with a real live bunny on select dates during Easter week (March 23 - 25).

Special sitting fees and package prices are available for all ages. Appointments are filling fast, so call today!

(334) 897-8777
English Photography

COMMUNITY NEWS

ADPH issues fish consumption advisories for 2005

Tissue monitoring of fish collected from various waterbodies throughout the state during the fall of 2004 indicates that the quality of water in Alabama generally has continued to improve over the past years, with a single, additional fish consumption advisory issued for 2005.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management collected fish from various waterbodies in the state last fall. These fish were analyzed for 23 different materials including contaminants in the water to which the fish may have been exposed.

Fish were also examined for body appearance, lipid content, age and weight. The Alabama Department of Public Health reviewed the results from these analyses and made a determination of the possible risk to which individuals might be exposed after consuming fish that contained any of these potentially harmful materials. These advisories are issued because toxic chemicals in lakes or rivers accumulate in fish tissue, and the people who eat these fish may face health risks from the chemicals.

Contaminant concentrations, if present, were either below measurable concentrations or did not exceed FDA guidelines in fish collected from the Alabama River, Catoma Creek, Chattahoochee River, Choctawhatchee River, Tombigbee River, Coosa River, Middle River, Pea River.

A composite sample made of all fish of a given species sampled from each site is used to develop guidance for that

The National Security Group, Inc. announces share results

Elba Alabama (February 25, 2005) - The National Security Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: NSEC) today announced its financial results for the year ended December 31, 2004. Total revenues for the year increased 13.1% to \$63,246,000 compared to \$55,917,000 for 2003, leading the increase in total revenue was a fourth consecutive year of sequential double-digit growth in insurance premiums earned which increased 11.5% in 2004 to a Company record \$52,985,000 compared to \$47,536,000 for the year 2003. Net income for the year declined 23.9% to 3,113,000, or \$1.26 per share, compared with net income of \$4,090,000, or \$1.66 per share for 2003. Third quarter losses from Hurricane Ivan were the primary reason for the decline in net income. Losses and related expenses from Hurricane Ivan reduced 2004 net income by approximately \$3,611,000 or \$1.47 per share.

	Three Months Ended December 31, 2004	2003	Year Ended December 31, 2004	2003
Premiums Earned	\$13,113,000	\$13,187,000	\$52,985,000	\$47,536,000
Investment Income	1,018,000	826,000	4,328,000	4,137,000
Realized Investment Gains	507,000	701,000	2,162,000	1,416,000
Rev. from Leasing Operation	567,000	403,000	2,459,000	1,433,000
Other Income	315,000	353,000	1,312,000	1,395,000
Total Revenue	\$15,520,000	\$15,470,000	\$63,246,000	\$55,917,000
Net Income	\$ 1,238,000	\$ 1,082,000	\$ 3,113,000	\$ 4,090,000
Net Income Per Share	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.43	\$ 1.26	\$ 1.66

RCAG to host pancake and waffle supper

The Rural Communities Action Group is hosting a Pancake and Waffle supper on March 18, 2005, at the Coffee Springs Senior Center. Serving will begin at 5 p.m. and continue until everyone is served. The meal will be served with sausage, syrup and drink. Sugar free syrup will be available for diabetics. There will be a charge. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy fellowship with friends and neighbors while supporting community projects.

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the 2005 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama and in the Senate of Alabama for its passage and enactment will be made:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Relating to Coffee and Pike Counties and the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, providing for the establishment of a pretrial diversion program.

Section 1. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 2. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 3. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 4. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 5. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

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Section 15. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 16. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 17. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 18. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 19. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 20. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

under the Code of Alabama 1975.

(c) The following offenses are ineligible for consideration for the pretrial diversion program:

(1) Trafficking in or distribution of drugs, or both.

(2) Any offense involving the abuse of a child or an elderly person.

(3) Any sex offense.

(4) Any Class A felony.

(5) Any offense involving serious injury to a person.

(6) Any offense involving death.

(7) Driving under the influence.

(8) A person deemed by the district attorney to be a threat to the safety or well-being of the community shall not be eligible for the pretrial diversion program.

Section 4. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

Section 5. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

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Section 20. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

and in an amount to be determined by the district attorney taking into account circumstances of the offender and victim.

(b) The district attorney's pretrial diversion program shall be approved by the Coffee County General Fund for the prosecution of the offense.

(c) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(d) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(e) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(f) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(g) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(h) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

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(j) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(k) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

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(s) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

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(u) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(v) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(w) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

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(y) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(z) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(aa) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

(ab) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

meanor and violation cases, twenty-five dollars (\$25) of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program.

(b) The district attorney's pretrial diversion program shall be approved by the Coffee County General Fund for the prosecution of the offense.

(c) In cases where the applicant is not indigent, as determined by the district attorney, the fee for the pretrial diversion program shall be \$250 of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases shall be \$125 of the fee, for each applicant accepted into the pretrial diversion program and allocated to the prosecution of the offense.

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SPORTS

Views From....
THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melanie's softball season has been on hold for the past two weeks due to a torn quad muscle, but the injury has done little to keep her from being busy as she now goes for rehab three days a week and still dresses out for all the games and keeps the books. Her return to the field may still be weeks away. However, she is still a part of the team and will be ready when she gets back in the line-up.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** The Elba Tigers posted a big win over Luverne last week to up their record to 3-1 and move atop the area standings, but late in the week dropped a close decision to Opp and over the weekend were outscored 39-1 in a double-header loss to Rehobeth and Headland. The Tigers' fast start is now nothing but a memory, and it will be interesting to see how the team bounces back this week and in a tournament next week. The key to this year's team will be how well they recover after a loss, and that is something we will find out very soon.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers posted four wins last week and evened their record at 4-4 before dropping their final two games in an Andalusia tournament to end the week's action with a 4-6 record. Spirits were low after the 0-4 start and many thought the team would struggle to even find a handful of wins. However, the girls never made excuses and just kept on working, and last week saw some of that hard work pay off. While this year's team will still have to play well every time it hits the field to post a winning record, at least it now knows what it will take.

*** This has been a busy spring for both the baseball and softball junior varsity teams and the busy schedule should pay dividends down the line. The baseball team has played more games than they have in recent memory and has posted more than its share of wins, while the softball team has also been busy and has given the younger players the chance to get valuable game experience. The key to having a successful varsity program is to have an organized junior varsity program, and I am convinced the lessons learned this spring will carry over in the years to come. Now the same dedication to the youth must move over into the football program.

*** I read in a weekly newspaper column last week that ninth grade basketball will no longer be played at Dauphin Junior High and Enterprise Junior High, in Enterprise. The column stated that the two junior high schools had found it hard to get games with area teams and that the interest in the sports had waned as the number of games on the schedule grew less and less over the years. Enterprise has found life as a 6A school to be somewhat of a problem in recent years since the AHSAA moved all 6A sports into regions and now faces long road trips to places like Auburn, Opelika, Smiths Station and Phenix City in all sports, while locally schools like Elba, New Brockton, Geneva and many others changed from a junior high format to more of a middle school set-up, which resulted in the end of ninth grade basketball at most of the local schools. Enterprise High will now be the host of all ninth grade basketball games and players from both Dauphin and Enterprise will combine to form the teams for both boys and girls. The teams will still have to log some miles, but maybe the schedule will be more stable and the new rivalries that emerge will help put some excitement back in the program. Oh yes, now that the two junior high's will only play 8th grade basketball, look for them to try and get area schools like Elba and New Brockton back on the schedule.

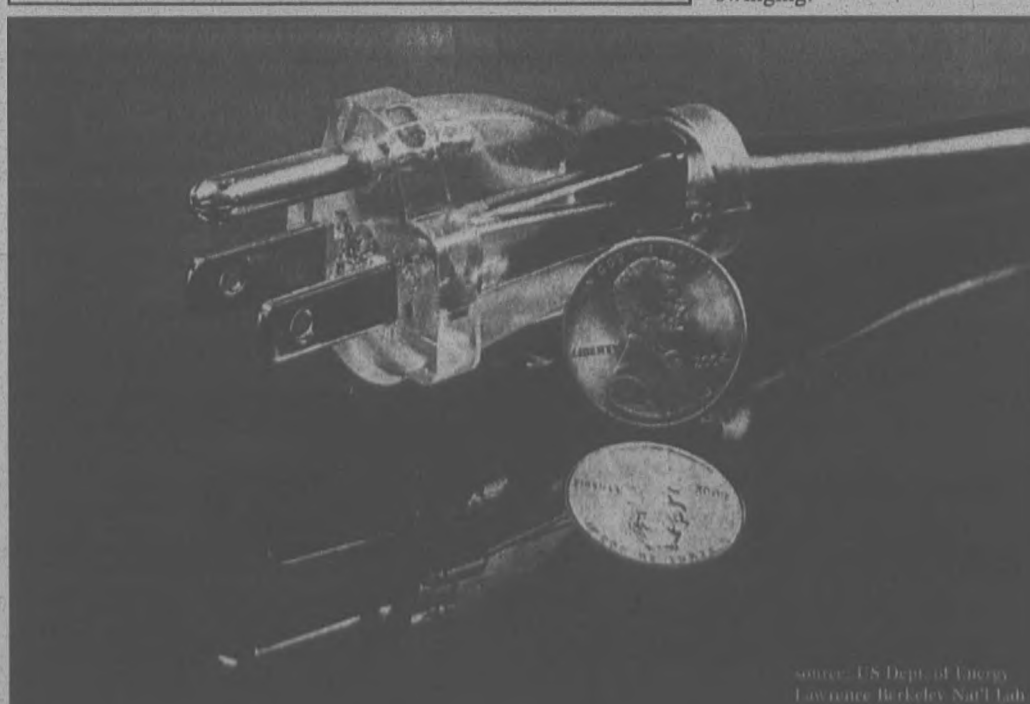
*** In closing... now that March Madness is officially here it means that many of us college basketball fans will stay up late to watch the tournament games played at locations all across the nation. There will be games played almost all afternoon and night for at least three days a week, and then in the days to come the sites will change and the games will only increase in importance. Yep, it is time to go mad!

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Grab early lead in area play**Tigers escape Luverne with 6-5 win**

The Elba Tigers upped their record to 3-1 and moved to 1-0 in area play last Tuesday afternoon by knocking off Luverne 6-5, in Luverne.

Elba jumped out to an early 1-0 lead in the top of the second inning when Adam Spicer reached on a walk and later scored on a two-out single by Aaron Harrelson, but the Tigers' bats went quiet after the early inning fireworks and Luverne rallied with three runs in the bottom of the fourth to move on to top 3-1.

The Tigers didn't stay down for long, however, as they played two runs in the top of the fifth to pull even at 3-3. Brad Sullivan reached on a two-out walk to ignite the Elba rally, while LaRay Williams reached on an error and both runners

raced home when Marquize Tyson followed with a two-run single.

Elba continued to send runners across the plate in the top of the sixth as the Tigers used four hits to plate three runs and moved back on top 6-3. Clark Skinner opened the inning with a single to pump life into the Elba rally, while Chase Boutwell drove in Skinner with an rbi double, and Boutwell scored one batter later as Ryan Gibbs ripped an rbi double. Aaron Harrelson had a key two-out single to drive in Gibbs, and heading into the bottom of the fifth the Tigers were still alive.

Luverne combined one hit with one walk, one hit batter and one Elba error to cut the Elba lead to 6-5 in the bottom of the

sixth, and then loaded the bases with one out in the bottom of the seventh. Tiger pitcher Clark Skinner got the second out of the inning on a strike-out and then got out of the jam when he forced the final Luverne batter to ground out to second base as Elba escaped with the 6-5 win.

Aaron Harrelson had 2 hits and knocked in 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Ryan Gibbs added 2 hits, scored 1 run and knocked in 1 run and Marquize Tyson added 2 hits and also collected 2 runs-batted-in. Getting 1 hit were LaRay Williams, Clark Skinner and Chase Boutwell. Clark Skinner got the win on the mound as he pitched all seven innings and allowed 6 hits, 1 walk, hit 6 batters and struck out 8 batters.



Adam Spicer - had one hit in the Tigers' 5-2 loss to Opp. The Tigers will compete next week in the Arton Baseball Tourney.

Elba Tigers fall to Opp Bobcats 5-2

The Elba Tigers traveled to Opp Thursday afternoon to battle the Opp Bobcats and never recovered from an early 3-0 deficit as they dropped a 5-2 decision to fall to 3-2 on the season.

Opp combined two hits with two walks and an Elba error to jump out to a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning, then added two runs in the fourth as the Bobcats combined one hit with one walk and two hit batters to up their advantage to 5-0.

The Tigers had three hits over the initial four innings and stranded all three runners on base, but came up with a couple of key hits in the top of the fifth and scored two runs to cut the

5-2 defeat.

Marquize Tyson and Clark Skinner both had 1 hit and drove in 1 run to lead Elba, while LaRay Williams and Steven Driggers added 1 hit and scored 1 run, apiece. Adam Spicer and Aaron Harrelson also added 1 hit. Steven Driggers pitched two innings and allowed 3 runs on 3 hits, 2 walks and 1 hit batter to take the loss, while Ryan Gibbs pitched 4 innings and allowed 2 runs on 4 hits, 1 walk, 3 hit batters and struck out 3 batters.

Elba Tiger JV score early and hold on in 5-3 win over New Brockton

The Elba Tiger junior varsity baseball team took advantage of seven first inning walks to jump out to an early 5-0 lead and held on late to escape with a 5-3 win, last Monday afternoon in New Brockton.

Elba loaded the bases in the top of the first inning on three straight walks, then moved on top 3-0 when Justin McLaughlin followed with a three-run double. McLaughlin moved to third on a fielder's choice off the bat of Justin Mallory, while Cody Sasser drew a one-out walk and stole second to keep the inning alive. McLaughlin scored on a passed ball to up the Elba lead to 4-0, while Sasser scored when Andrew Head reached on an error and the Tigers were on top 5-0 with play still going on in

the opening inning.

New Brockton scored two runs in the fourth inning as Hayden Smith and D.J. Blevins both came through with clutch hits, and the Gamecocks cut the Elba lead to 5-3 in the fifth when Dee Finley singled and later scored on a fielder's choice.

McLaughlin, who pitched all five innings for Elba, drew a ground-out to end the game, however, and the Tigers held on to escape with the 5-3 win.

McLaughlin got the win on the mound and allowed 3 runs on 5 hits and 2 walks, while striking out 4 batters, and also led the Tigers at the plate with two doubles, 3 runs-batted-in and one run scored.

Second annual Elba Tiger alumni baseball game set for April 23

The Elba Tiger baseball team will host the 2nd annual "Alumni Baseball Game" on Saturday, April 23, at the Elba High baseball field.

Any Elba High alumni baseball player that would like to play in the game should call Elba High School at 897-2266 or Wynn Grimes at 897-8892. Please give the name and year graduated when registering for the game.

The day's festivities will begin at 10:00 AM with a home-run derby, with an entry fee of \$5 per player. The alumni game will begin at 1:00 PM.

**** SCHEDULES ******THURSDAY, MARCH 17***** BASEBALL ***

Elba at Geneva County (5:00)
Samson JV at Elba JV (5:00)

MONDAY, MARCH 21*** BASEBALL ***

Elba, in Arton Purple Cat Tournament

*** SOFTBALL ***

Kinston, in Gulf Shores Softball Classic

TUESDAY, MARCH 22*** BASEBALL ***

Elba, in Arton Purple Cat Tournament

*** SOFTBALL ***

Kinston, in Gulf Shores Softball Classic

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23*** BASEBALL ***

Elba, in Arton Purple Cat Tournament

*** SOFTBALL ***

Kinston, in Gulf Shores Softball Classic

SPORTS

Elba Lady Tigers snap losing streak with wins over Straughn and Kinston

After opening the 2005 high school softball season with four straight losses the Elba Lady Tigers were looking for a spark to pump life into the team and lead it to a much needed win. The Lady Tigers got that, and more last week as junior pitcher Stephanie Baxley tossed a no-hitter in a 7-0 win over Straughn and then handcuffed Kinston on only one-hit late in the week in a 5-3 win to give Elba two wins as the Lady Tigers upped their record to 2-4.

Following are highlights of last week's regular season action: **ANDALUSIA 7**

The Elba Lady Tigers fell behind early and never recovered last Monday afternoon in a 7-1 loss to the Andalusia Lady Bulldogs, in Andalusia.

Elba managed only three hits over the opening four innings and failed to dent the scoreboard, but Andalusia had no such problems as the Lady Bulldogs combined two hits with two walks and three Elba errors to plate six runs in their initial three trips to the plate to grab a 6-0 lead.

The Lady Tigers avoided the shut-out in the top of the fifth when Whitney Lawford singled and later scored on an rbi double by Ashley Carpenter, but Andalusia answered the Elba run with a run of its own in the bottom of the inning and easily held on to claim the 7-1 win.

Kristen Parker had 3 hits to lead Elba at the plate, while Stephanie Baxley, Whitney Lawford and Ashley Carpenter

all added one hit. Stephanie Baxley was saddled with the loss as she allowed seven runs (two earned runs) on one hit, three walks and six Elba errors, while striking out 10 batters.

STRAUGHN 0

The Elba Lady Tigers posted their first win of the season last Tuesday afternoon with a 7-0 victory over Straughn, in Straughn.

Elba managed only one hit over the first two innings as the score was tied at 0-0 heading into the third. However, the Lady Tigers came to life in the top of the third and combined four hits with two Straughn errors to plate three runs as they moved ahead 3-0. A two-run double by Yoyo Reynolds was the key hit in the inning, while Stephanie Baxley also drove in one run with a two-out single.

The Lady Tigers carried the 3-0 lead into the top of the sixth, then added three runs without the benefit of a hit to blow the game open as moved on top 6-0. Elba combined two walks with three Straughn errors in the sixth to take command.

The Lady Tigers closed out the scoring in the top of the seventh and again did so without a hit, as Straughn committed two errors to allow Elba to stretch its lead and claim the 7-0 win.

Kayla Miller had 2 hits to lead Elba at the plate, while Stephanie Baxley and Ashley Carpenter and Yoyo Reynolds all added 1 hit. Stephanie Baxley got the win on the pitcher's rub-

ber as she tossed a no-hitter and struck out 11 batters.

ELBA 5**KINSTON 3**

The Elba Lady Tigers claimed their second straight win and gained a measure of revenge for an early-season loss on Thursday afternoon as they defeated the Kinston Lady Bulldogs 5-3, in Elba.

Neither team scored in the opening inning, but the Lady Tigers came to life in the bottom of the second and combined two hits with two Kinston errors to plate four runs as they opened up a 4-0 advantage. Kayla Miller had a single early in the inning as the Lady Tigers put two runners on base with no outs, while the key hit of the inning was a two-run single by Whitney Lawford that snapped the Elba lead to 3-0.

Kinston combined one hit with one walk and one Elba error to pull within 4-2 in the top of the fourth, but the Lady Tigers bounced right back in their half of the frame as Elba took advantage of two Kinston errors to move ahead 5-2.

Kinston added a late run to cut the Elba lead to 5-3, but could get no closer as the Lady Tigers held on to post the 5-3 win.

Whitney Lawford had 1 hit, knocked in 2 runs and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Stephanie Baxley, and Kayla Miller also added 1 hit. Stephanie Baxley got the win as she tossed a 1-hitter and allowed 3 runs (one earned run) on 3 walks and 3 Elba errors, while striking out 13 batters.

Record moves to 4-6**Elba Lady Tigers win two and lose two in Andalusia Invitational Softball Tournament**

The Elba Lady Tigers competed in the Andalusia Invitational Softball Tournament last weekend and posted a record of two wins and two losses to place in a fifth place tie in the 13-team event.

Following are highlights of the tournament action:

ELBA 4**ANDY JV 1**

The Elba Lady Tigers opened tournament action on Friday afternoon against the Andalusia junior varsity and posted a 4-1 win.

The Lady Tigers batted first in the game and grabbed a quick 2-0 lead as they combined two hits with two Andalusia errors. Yoyo Reynolds singled to open the game for Elba and later scored on an rbi single by Kristen Parker, while Parker scored thanks to an Andalusia error.

Andalusia combined one hit with two Elba errors to cut the Elba lead to 2-1 in the bottom of the fourth. However, the Lady Tigers bounced back in the top of the fifth to place two runs as they upped their lead to 4-1. An rbi single by Stephanie Baxley was the key hit in the inning for Elba, which received help from two Andalusia errors.

Kristen Parker had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Yoyo Reynolds added 2 hits and scored 1 run and Stephanie Baxley had 1 hit and scored 1 run. Baxley got the win for the Lady Tigers as she allowed one run on 2 hits and 1 walk, while striking out 16 batters.

ELBA 3**REHOBETH 2**

The Elba Lady Tigers claimed their second win of the tourney on Friday night as they rallied in their final at-bat to ease past the Rehobeth Lady Rebels 3-2.

Elba managed only two hits over the initial five innings and had only one base runner reach the plate, while Rehobeth failed to get a hit through five innings and managed only three base runners, with two getting on base on Elba errors.

The complexion of the game changed in the sixth inning; how-

ever, as Rehobeth combined 1 hit with two Elba errors to plate two runs and moved ahead 2-0. Elba showed signs of life early in the bottom of the inning as Stephanie Baxley drew a lead off walk, moved to second on a stolen base and then moved to third on a sacrifice bunt by Kayla Miller. Brandy Caldwell drew a walk to put the tying run on base, and the Lady Tigers then cut the lead to 2-1 when Baxley scored on a passed ball. Guccie Hudson scored to tie the game at 2-2 on a single by Haley Stinson, and Stinson then raced home on a two-out double by Whitney Lawford as Elba rallied to pull out the wild 3-2 win.

Ashley Carpenter, Haley Stinson and Whitney Lawford all had 1 hit to lead Elba at the plate, while Stephanie Baxley was the winning pitcher as she allowed two runs on 1 hit, 1 walk and 3 Elba errors, while striking out 9 batters.

FLOMATON 3**ELBA 0**

The Elba Lady Tigers suffered their first loss of the double-elimination tournament on Saturday morning as they managed only one hit in a 3-0 setback to the Flomaton Lady Hurricanes.

Elba's lone hit came with two outs in the third inning when Yoyo Reynolds singled to right field, while Flomaton scored its first run in the bottom of the frame thanks to two Elba errors. Flomaton carried the slim 1-0 lead into the seventh inning,

where the Lady Hurricanes added two runs on one hit, two walks and one Elba error to pull away and then held on in the bottom of the seventh to claim the 3-0 win.

Yoyo Reynolds got Elba's only hit of the game, while Stephanie Baxley was saddled with the loss as she allowed 3 runs on two hits, five walks and four Elba errors, while striking out 12 batters.

GENEVA 3**ELBA 2**

The Elba Lady Tigers were eliminated from the tournament on Saturday afternoon after a controversial 3-2 setback to the Geneva Lady Panthers.

Elba failed to get a hit in the opening two innings and quickly fell behind 2-0 as Geneva combined one hit with two Elba errors to plate two runs in the top of the second as the Lady Panthers moved on top 2-0.

Geneva took advantage of two Elba errors to increase its lead to 3-0 in the top of the third, but Elba showed signs of life in the bottom of the inning and cut the Geneva lead to 3-1.

The Lady Tigers failed to get a hit in their half of the third, but took advantage of three walks and two Geneva errors to plate one run. Elba had a chance to cut even more into the deficit, but left the bases loaded.

The Lady Tigers stranded two more base runners in the bottom of the fourth and trailed 3-1 heading into the fifth, then took advantage of three walks and error to pull within 3-2 with two outs. Elba appeared to pull even when Kiwana Cole attempted to score on a wild pitch, however, the plate umpire called Cole out on a close play and the Lady Tigers were eliminated 3-2.

Guccie Hudson got the only hit of the game for Elba with a fourth inning bunt. Stephanie Baxley was tagged with the loss as she allowed 3 runs on one hit and five Elba errors, while striking out



Elba Lady Tiger Whitney Lawford reaches for a throw in recent softball action. Lawford knocked in the winning run last week in Elba's 3-2 win over Rehobeth.

(Photo by Laura Baxley)

Prep Baseball & Softball**DIAMOND DUST******* BASEBALL *******New Brockton beats back Bulldogs 8-4**

The New Brockton Gamecocks continued their early-season success and improved their record to 3-1 last Tuesday afternoon by defeating the Kinston Bulldogs 8-4, in New Brockton. Mark Windham had 2 hits and knocked in 2 runs to lead the Gamecocks at the plate, while Heath Parker, Stephen Hines and Tommy Stroud all added 2 hits. Garrett Parker and Shawn Miller both had 3 hits to lead Kinston, while Brad Elmore added 2 hits.

Kinston JV Bulldogs rip Gamecocks 17-7

The Kinston Bulldog junior varsity pulled away late to bury New Brockton 17-7, last Tuesday in New Brockton. Aaron Jacobs ripped an inside-the-park and picked up the win in relief to lead the Bulldogs, while Matt Whigham added 2 hits.

New Brockton JV cage Purple Cats 11-3

Shane Adkinson and Nathan Foster combined to pitch a no-hit and struck out 12 batters as the New Brockton Gamecocks pounded Arton 11-3, Saturday in Arton. Adkinson pitched five innings of no-hit ball and struck out 12 batters, while Foster pitched the final two innings and allowed no hits, while striking out 4 batters. Kyle Purvis and Josh Roberts both had 1 hit and 2 rbi's to lead the Gamecocks at the plate.

***** SOFTBALL *******Elba Gamecock JV's fall hard in 27-5 loss**

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks junior varsity fell behind early and never recovered last Tuesday afternoon in a 27-5 loss to Geneva County, in New Brockton. Rebecca Baer and Brittany Eubanks both had 1 hit to lead the Lady Gamecocks, while Ashley Boin had 3 hits to lead Geneva County.

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No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, **Michael Lindsey & Denise Burks, dba Mulberry Community Grocery**, have made application to the City of Elba for a **050-Retail Beer and 070-Retail Wine** off premises consumption, at this location, **1501 Martin Luther King Drive**, Elba, Alabama.

A public hearing will be held by the City Council in their regular meeting in the Council Chamber in City Hall at **8:30 a.m., Monday, March 28, 2005.** NOTICE: This public hearing has been postponed until **8:30 p.m., Monday, April 11, 2005.**

CLASSIFIEDS

The Elba Clipper

417 W. Buford St. • P.O. Box A
Elba, AL 36323-0257

TO PLACE AN AD

CALL 334-897-2823
FAX 334-897-3434
TOLL-FREE
1-888-216-8050
e-mail clipper@alaweb.com

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The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear.

COST

Only \$3.00* per week (first 15 words)
*Additional words 17¢ each

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NORDIC TRACK WALKER FOR SALE. Like New. \$200.00. Call 897-6277. 3-10-2c

GARAGE DOORS Galore! Sectional, Drum or Rolling Steel Doors. Residential or commercial for home, business and industry. Delivered and installed. Call Keyco, Inc. at 1-888-465-3924. Nobody beats a Keyco deal.

LAWFORD ACE HARDWARE SNAPPER PRODUCTS 0% Interest-6-12 Mo. Mowers, Pressure Washers, Generators, Etc.

Hardware ACE HARDWARE
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Can't sell your car, truck, boat or RV? Donate it to the National Kidney Foundation of Alabama's Kidney Cars program. You'll get a free tow and possibly a tax deduction. Call 1-800-488-CARS

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WOLF TANNING Beds. Affordable! Convenient. Tan at Home. Payments from \$29/month. Free Color Catalog. Call Today 1-800-842-1305. (R)

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SERVICES

B & D LAWN CARE, Cutting, Edging, Weeding, Trimming. **PRESSURE WASHING**-Mobile Homes, Houses & Driveways. Commercial & Residential. Owner: DeWayne Moore. Phone: Home (334)897-3050, Cell (334)470-0363. **FREE ESTIMATES.** 3-10-2c

BAKER'S TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL - 23 years of Experience. **FREE ESTIMATES.** Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m. 10-29-1c

ELBA SULATION CO. Resid. u. or commercial. Batts or blown-in. Fiberglass Insulation. Call Earl Yates - 897-3630. 4-11-1c

NEED TO advertise statewide? ALA-SCAN can place your 25-word ad in 118 newspapers across Alabama for only \$195 (additional words \$7.50 each). Call this newspaper (a participating ALA-SCAN member) to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide! Or visit us online at www.ala-scan.com. (R)

SELF-EMPLOYED. Looking for a starting capital? Need to expand or start a small business? We can help with mortgage and debt consolidation. Call 1-877-791-1384.

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HEALTH BENEFITS as low as \$129/month, for families, individuals, businesses; accidents, prescriptions, hospital stays, emergency room visits, vision, dental. You can't be denied. 1-888-220-7303.

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FAMILY HEALTH Care w/ Prescription Plan! \$69.95/mo. Best network, excellent coverage. No limitations! Includes Dental, Vision, Pre-existing cond. OK! Call: WCS 1-800-288-9214 ext. 2305. (R)

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WANTED: Country properties in south central Alabama. We have local and out of state buyers contacting us daily. If you need to sell a rural home or land call United Country, 334-566-8053. 5-6-1c

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HELP WANTED

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL has a Part-time/PRN Position Open for a CRIT/RT/RT Eligible Person To Work in the Respiratory Dept. Apply in Person or Contact the HR Dept at 897-2257 Ext. 224. We are a drug free work place and equal opportunity employer. 3-10-2c

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DRIVERS - A company that cares, start up to 41 CPM, home most weekends. Many Commuted Accounts Expanding. OTR Assigned 2002 or newer trucks, Experience required. 1-800-441-4271, ext. B38. (R)

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Production Supervisor for Metal Shop. Send Resume to: P.O. Box 310326, Enterprise, AL 36330

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DRIVERS - 34 to 35 cpm for new drivers. Fuel surcharge plus 90 cpm for owners; avg over \$1/mi. paid plates & fees, no forced dispatch. Don't haul your next load for less - start with us next week & make more immediately. Benefits available. Call 1-877-452-5627. eoe.

DRIVERS \$45,000-\$55,000+ per year with automatic semi-annual increases, short haul premium pay and excellent benefits. CDL-A 6 months T/T exp. call Sunray or anytime 1-800-893-6791.

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FOR RENT

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PRICE REDUCED 3 BR/2BA, LR, DR, Hardwood Floors, Alarm System, Large Lot w/Storage Trailer, 2258 Sq. Ft., \$88,000. 851 N. Claxton Ave. 897-2843. 3-10-2c

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100 SQ. FT. HOUSE ON GANT LAKE. 3 BR, 2 Baths, On Water. New Construction-\$159,000.00. Also Other Lots Available - Call 334-897-6540-RUSSELL CONSTRUCTION. 6-10-1c

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AUCTION ABSOLUTE: Lake Martin waterfront home. Castaway Island area. Owner finance Saturday, April 9th, 11 a.m. Asset Liquidators, C. Hughes AL1275. For brochure 1-205-499-1638. (R)

SCOTTSBORO BLUFF View Tennessee River. 2500 sq ft. 4 BR, 3.5 B, \$254,000. Scottboro, TN. Waterfront, Pool, 3 BR, 2.5 B, \$325,000. Debbie Mathis Realty. 1-888-574-2525.

GREAT 1200 SQUARE FT HOME FOR RETIREMENT. New Patio Home on Seaside Dr., Off Highland Road. 3 BR, 2 Bath. For More Information call Mike Russell RUSSELL CONSTRUCTION 334-897-6540. 10-23-1c

DEATH having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed to Wayne Wyrodsick on 13th of January, 1999, by Tab Foley Dingers and wife, Naomi Dingers, and recorded in OR Book 38A, Page 246 on January 13, 1999, in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama, and said default continuing, the undersigned, as Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the said mortgage will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash in front of the main entrance to the Coffee County, Alabama, courthouse, Elba, Alabama, on March 24, 2005, during the legal hours of sale the following described real estate situated in Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama, to-wit: A parcel of land lying on the west side of Alabama Highway #167 and being situated in the West half of the SE1/4 of Section 11, Township 6 North, Range 21 East, Coffee County, Alabama, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point 2,150.86 feet and continuing in a Southwesterly direction for a distance of 493.37 feet; thence in a Easterly direction a distance of 396 feet to a point; thence in a northerly direction 568.50 feet to a point and in a north-westerly direction 338.50 feet to the point of beginning. The land connects to the 10.75 acres, more or less, heretofore conveyed to the Mortgagees by the Mortgagee. This property will be sold on an "AS IS", "WHERE IS" basis subject to any assessments, encumbrances and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama. This Property will be sold without warranty or recourse, express or implied, as to title. This property is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage as well as the expense of foreclosure.

D. Bruce McLean Attorney for Mortgagee 111 East College Street Enterprise, AL 36330 334/347-2622 3-3,10,17,2c

LEGAL NOTICE Ozark Striping Company, Inc., hereby gives notice of completion of contract with the State of Alabama for construction of Project: 5T1TTE-CNO(012) in Coffee County, AL. This notice will appear for four consecutive weeks beginning on March 10, 10, and ending on March 31. All claims should be filed at P.O. Box 847, Ozark, AL 36361, during this period.

OZARK STRIPING COMPANY, INC. 3-10,17,24,31c

ADVERTISMENT FOR BIDS Coffee County Water Authority P.O. Box 638 (11 County Road 537) New Brockton, AL 36351 Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of Contract I-Water Well Supply Plant Contract II-Water Storage Tank Contract III-Water Distribution Mains will be received by the Water Authority until 4:00 p.m. Standard Time - April 11, 2005, and then at said office publicly

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MICKY PARKS, Deceased. CASE NO. PC-03-31 NOTICE OF PETITION BY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE TO SELL REAL ESTATE FOR THE PAYMENT OF DEBTS You will TAKE NOTICE, that Mavis Parks as Administrator of the Estate of Micky Parks, deceased, has filed a Petition to Sell Real Estate for the payment of Debts of the estate. The Probate Court for Coffee County has set a hearing on this cause on the 22nd day of March, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock p.m., at the Coffee County Courthouse, Elba, Alabama. Done this 1st day of March, 2005. /s/ William O. Gammill JUDGE OF PROBATE 3-3,10,17c

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF OATES BONNEAU ROWE, Deceased. IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION CASE NO.: PC 05-21 NOTICE TO CREDITORS Take notice that Letters Testamentary were granted to Page Devane, as Executrix of the Estate of Oates Bonneau Rowe, deceased, on the 1st day of March, 2005, by the Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. /s/ Page Devane Personal Representative 3-3,10,17pd

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed to Wayne Wyrodsick on 13th of January, 1999, by Tab Foley Dingers and wife, Naomi Dingers, and recorded in OR Book 38A, Page 246 on January 13, 1999, in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama, and said default continuing, the undersigned, as Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the said mortgage will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash in front of the main entrance to the Coffee County, Alabama, courthouse, Elba, Alabama, on March 24, 2005, during the legal hours of sale the following described real estate situated in Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama, to-wit: A parcel of land lying on the west side of Alabama Highway #167 and being situated in the West half of the SE1/4 of Section 11, Township 6 North, Range 21 East, Coffee County, Alabama, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point 2,150.86 feet and continuing in a Southwesterly direction for a distance of 493.37 feet; thence in a Easterly direction a distance of 396 feet to a point; thence in a northerly direction 568.50 feet to a point and in a north-westerly direction 338.50 feet to the point of beginning. The land connects to the 10.75 acres, more or less, heretofore conveyed to the Mortgagees by the Mortgagee. This property will be sold on an "AS IS", "WHERE IS" basis subject to any assessments, encumbrances and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama. This Property will be sold without warranty or recourse, express or implied, as to title. This property is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage as well as the expense of foreclosure.

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ADVERTISMENT FOR BIDS Coffee County Water Authority P.O. Box 638 (11 County Road 537) New Brockton, AL 36351 Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of Contract I-Water Well Supply Plant Contract II-Water Storage Tank Contract III-Water Distribution Mains will be received by the Water Authority until 4:00 p.m. Standard Time - April 11, 2005, and then at said office publicly

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MICKY PARKS, Deceased. CASE NO. PC-03-31 NOTICE OF PETITION BY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE TO SELL REAL ESTATE FOR THE PAYMENT OF DEBTS You will TAKE NOTICE, that Mavis Parks as Administrator of the Estate of Micky Parks, deceased, has filed a Petition to Sell Real Estate for the payment of Debts of the estate. The Probate Court for Coffee County has set a hearing on this cause on the 22nd day of March, 2005, at 2:00 o'clock p.m., at the Coffee County Courthouse, Elba, Alabama. Done this 1st day of March, 2005. /s/ William O. Gammill JUDGE OF PROBATE 3-3,10,17c

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF OATES BONNEAU ROWE, Deceased. IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION CASE NO.: PC 05-21 NOTICE TO CREDITORS Take notice that Letters Testamentary were granted to Page Devane, as Executrix of the Estate of Oates Bonneau Rowe, deceased, on the 1st day of March, 2005, by the Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. /s/ Page Devane Personal Representative 3-3,10,17pd

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed to Wayne Wyrodsick on 13th of January, 1999, by Tab Foley Dingers and wife, Naomi Dingers, and recorded in OR Book 38A, Page 246 on January 13, 1999, in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama, and said default continuing, the undersigned, as Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the said mortgage will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash in front of the main entrance to the Coffee County, Alabama, courthouse, Elba, Alabama, on March 24, 2005, during the legal hours of sale the following described real estate situated in Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama, to-wit: A parcel of land lying on the west side of Alabama Highway #167 and being situated in the West half of the SE1/4 of Section 11, Township 6 North, Range 21 East, Coffee County, Alabama, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point 2,150.86 feet and continuing in a Southwesterly direction for a distance of 493.37 feet; thence in a Easterly direction a distance of 396 feet to a point; thence in a northerly direction 568.50 feet to a point and in a north-westerly direction 338.50 feet to the point of beginning. The land connects to the 10.75 acres, more or less, heretofore conveyed to the Mortgagees by the Mortgagee. This property will be sold on an "AS IS", "WHERE IS" basis subject to any assessments, encumbrances and exceptions reflected in the mortgage and those contained in the records of Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama. This Property will be sold without warranty or recourse, express or implied, as to title. This property is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage as well as the expense of foreclosure.

D. Bruce McLean Attorney for Mortgagee 111 East College Street Enterprise, AL 36330 334/347-2622 3-3,10,17,2c

LEGAL NOTICE Ozark Striping Company, Inc., hereby gives notice of completion of contract with the State of Alabama for construction of Project: 5T1TTE-CNO(012) in Coffee County, AL. This notice will appear for four consecutive weeks beginning on March 10, 10, and ending on March 31. All claims should be filed at P.O. Box 847, Ozark, AL 36361, during this period.

OZARK STRIPING COMPANY, INC. 3-10,17,24,31c

ADVERTISMENT FOR BIDS Coffee County Water Authority P.O. Box 638 (11 County Road 537) New Brockton, AL 36351 Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of Contract I-Water Well Supply Plant Contract II-Water Storage Tank Contract III-Water Distribution Mains will be received by the Water Authority until 4:00 p.m. Standard Time - April 11, 2005, and then at said office publicly

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COMMUNITY NEWS



PLOWING WITH MULES is one of the many turn-of-the-century farm activities that will be demonstrated at Landmark Park in Dothan on Saturday, March 19, during "Spring Farm Day." Activities get underway at 10 a.m. and will also include music, food, children's activities, a quilt show, arts and crafts, an Old-Time Fiddlers Convention and more. For more information, contact the park office at 334-794-3452 or visit www.landmarkpark.com

"Spring Farm Day" set for Dothan's Landmark Park

Landmark Park in Dothan, Ala., will offer visitors a glimpse of the past to see what rural life was like a century ago during the 22nd annual Spring Farm Day, on Saturday, March 19.

The day's activities will include demonstrations of old-fashioned skills and crafts like plowing with mules and horses, shearing sheep, blacksmithing, spinning, weaving, chair caning, white-oak basketry, woodworking and more.

Volunteers dressed in 1890s attire will invite visitors to the historic dwellings to observe the household pursuits of times past. They will quilt, sew by hand and with a treadle-powered sewing machine, cook on a wood stove and on the open hearth, wash clothes and make soap, demonstrate home crafts and games, and relate their own memories of farm life.

Other activities include two stages of music and clogging, wagon rides, pony rides, a quilt display, a border collie demon-

strations, beekeeping demonstrations, a plowing contest, children's activities, arts and crafts show, and a "Walk through History" featuring living-history reenactors portraying different periods of Alabama history along a portion of the park's nature trail.

A crowd favorite will be the 19th annual Old-Time Fiddlers' Convention which begins at 1 p.m. at the gazebo. Contestants will compete in four age categories and an open division for \$1,500 in cash prizes and savings bonds.

The "Fiddlers' Convention" will entice any interested acoustical musicians to gather in the park's one-room school for jam sessions during the day.

Attending this year's event as a "featured fiddler" (non-competing) and judge is Sharon Bounds. Bounds lives in Northport, Ala. and comes from a very musical family.

Both of her grandfathers and father were fiddle players. She has played fiddle since the age

of 12. At age 18, she won the Alabama State Championship. She has also won the Mississippi State Championship four times and placed seven times in the top ten of the Grand Masters National Fiddling Contest in Nashville. Bounds plays a variety of fiddle styles, from Texas and cajun to country and bluegrass.

The park's Martin Drug Store and Shelley General Store will both be open for business providing visitors with treats from the operating soda fountain or old-fashioned items typical of a country store.

Activities get underway at 10 a.m. There will be an admission charge.

Landmark Park, home of the Alabama Agricultural Museum, is a 100-acre historical and natural science park located on U.S. Highway 431 North in Dothan. For more information, contact the park at (334) 794-3452, or visit the park's web site at www.landmarkpark.com.

LBWCC offers FREE OSHA seminar in Opp

LBW Community College - MacArthur Campus will offer a FREE OSHA SEMINAR on general safety and its impact on your small business Thursday, March 31st from 9 am until 11 am. The program will be held in the Conference Center Building on the MacArthur Campus in Opp.

This seminar is designed for small businesses or non-profit organizations that employ one or more employees. Nearly every working man and woman in the nation comes under OSHA's jurisdiction (with exceptions such as miners, transportation workers, farmers using only their immediate family, many public employees, and the self-employed).

OSHA's mission is to assure the safety and health of America's workers by setting and enforcing standards; and encouraging continual improvement in workplace safety and health. Any work-related injuries, illnesses and deaths, such as workplace violence and work-related motor vehicle accidents could result in an OSHA investigation.

Learn how OSHA impacts your small business by attending this free seminar March 31st.

K.E.S. contributes funds to American Heart Association

The Kinston Elementary School recently contributed \$187.25 to the American Heart Association through the Jump Rope for Heart program.

The money raised will help to fight heart disease and stroke by educating young people to learn the importance of eating right, staying tobacco-free and to participate in heart healthy physical activities every day.

Coach Janie Wiggins is the coordinator for the event and the top fundraiser for the school was Nicolas Davis.

Clark Theatres • Enterprise

Entertainment • Arts • Music • Sports • Events

MANGIELE

Entertainment • Arts • Music • Sports • Events

I - ROBOTS

M-F 7 & 9 - S&S 2, 7 & 9 (PG)

No Passes - No Wed Discount

II - THE PACIFIER

M-F 7:10 & 9:10 - S&S 2, 7:10 & 9:10 (PG)

No Passes - No Wed Discount

III - BE COOL

M-F 7:45-9:30 - S&S 2, 7 & 9 (PG-13)

No Passes - No Wed Discount

IV - DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN

M-F 7:00 ONLY - S&S 7:00 ONLY (PG-13)

MAN OF THE HOUSE

M-F 9:30 ONLY - S&S 2 & 9:30 ONLY (PG-13)

College Cinema • College Plaza

I - THE RING TWO

M-F 7 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7 & 9:15 (PG-13)

II - MORTAL Kombat

M-F 7:00 & 9:30 - S&S 2, 7:15 & 9:15 (R)

III - ICE PRINCESS

M-F 7:10 & 9:15 - S&S 2, 7:15 & 9:15 (G)

Bargain Matinee Sat & Sun 2 p.m. only - all seats - \$4.50

Clark Theatres and its subsidiaries are not responsible for any loss or damage to property.

COMMUNITY NEWS

New Air Force recruiter arrives for local area

Staff Sergeant Derek P. Grant of Pensacola, Fla., has been assigned to the Air Force Recruiting office, at 2323 W. Main Street, Suite 104, Dothan, Ala.

As an Air Force recruiter, Staff Sergeant Grant is responsible for recruiting qualified people for the Air Force in Coffee, Geneva, Southern Houston and Southern Dale counties.

Staff Sergeant Grant is a recent graduate of the Air Force Recruiting School in San Antonio, Texas where he was trained in various areas of study, including the job classification system, testing enlistment processing procedures and public speaking.

Prior to his assignment in Dothan, SSgt Grant was the Combat Arms Instructor at Offutt AFB NE. Prior to this he served as a security forces member while assigned to Eglin AFB FL, Osan AB Korea, and Grand Forks AFB ND.

Contact Staff Sergeant Grant

Wiregrass Hospice looking for volunteers

Want to give back to the community and help a neighbor in need? Our mission at Wiregrass Hospice is caring for patients with life-limiting illnesses and we need you help.

Volunteering with Wiregrass Hospice offers endless opportunities for you to lend a hand. Whether it's baking a cake or entertaining a patient, your time is valued.

For more information on volunteering, contact volunteer coordinator, Anita Cawley at (334) 347-3353.

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Upcoming Meeting Notice:

The Coffee County Emergency Communications Board (E911 Board) will conduct its quarterly Board meeting on Tuesday, March 22nd, at 6 p.m. Location of the meeting will be in the Community Room of the County office complex in New Brockton. The news media and the public are invited.

THE ASSIGNMENT

CHAPTER THREE

by Linda M. Hodge

Jess knew it wasn't anyone's fault she grew up with only one parent...just the way things worked out. She had long ago accepted that fate and had no complaints about not having a mother. Her dad was the greatest!

There had been times when she would ask questions about her mom, and her dad always answered to the best of his ability. Over the years, he had explained how they met, fell in love, got married and a year later welcomed Jess into their lives. Time and time again, he would tell Jess how she completed both his and her mother's life. It was a wonderful story that Jess enjoyed hearing, but the fact remained, she didn't remember anything about her mother.

Jess waited all afternoon for her dad to come home so she could tell him about the assignment. Surely, he would take her side. The two had barely sat down at the table for supper when Jess decided she could wait no longer. She had to get it out.

"Mrs. Davidson gave me a ridiculous assignment today," Jess began. "I've decided she must not like me very much, or at least, that's the only explanation I can come up with."

"What are you talking about, Jess?" her dad asked.

Jess very enthusiastically explained how Mrs. Davidson gave the class various family history assignments. For the most part, she said the assignments seemed understandable. Allison was to research her parent's careers. Ryan was going to report on his family's immigration. Emma and Eric were researching twins in their family. And so on.

"Everybody got stuff they already knew about," Jess said. "Everybody except me. Mrs. Davidson gave me an impossible task. She wants me to report on Mom."

"Why would you say that is an impossible task?"

"Because I hardly know anything about her. The assignment is supposed to include our relationship with one another. Dad, we didn't have a relationship. You're the only parent I could have done this report on. What am I going to do? Isn't there somebody you can talk to Mrs. Davidson and get me out of it?"

Mike Abbott listened to his daughter speak of not having a relationship with her mother, and he suddenly knew what he needed to do. The assignment had made it all very clear.

"Jess, your mother is just as much a part of you as I am," he said. "Circumstances may have taken her away from us in an untimely manner, but she has always had a huge influence on our lives whether you realize it or not."

Jess was surprised at her dad's reaction. She had assumed he would take her side, but instead he encouraged the assignment.

"I'm glad Mrs. Davidson made this assignment," he continued. "You know I will help you in any way possible, but I think your best source will be your mom."

"How can Mom possibly help me with this assignment?"

Dad motioned for Jess to follow him as he got up from the table. While walking up the stairs he said the answer to Jess's question was waiting for her in the attic.

"Your mom always said I would know when the time was right to share this with you," he said. "That time is now."

Author Linda M. Hodge is a native of Elba, Alabama. *The Assignment* is produced in partnership with this newspaper. Copyright 2005.

Next Week - CHAPTER FOUR

Dad Opens the Mysterious Chest

THE ASSIGNMENT BY LINDA M. HODGE

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THE ASSIGNMENT BY LINDA M. HODGE



FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS at New Brockton Elementary School recently completed Solar System projects for science class. The projects were displayed on the walls along the hallway for everyone to inspect and enjoy.

City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo set for April 2nd and 3rd in Opp

The City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo will be April 2 and 3 at Channel Lee Stadium in Opp.

The rodeo will feature entertainment including Sugarland from Atlanta, Ga. The groups current song "Baby Girl" is in the top 50 country charts. Also, country star Blake Shelton will perform at the rodeo. His song "Some Beach" was a number 1 hit recently and "Goodbye Time" is rising in the Top 40 charts.

The Rattlesnake Rodeo will feature plenty of arts and crafts and food vendors throughout the weekend.

For more information on all events of the City of Opp Rattlesnake Rodeo, visit the website at www.opprattlesnakerodeo.com. There is an admission fee for the rodeo.

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March 18th & 19th, 2005
It's Our 40th Anniversary
SPRING BLOOMING MADNESS SALE
 At FAY'S NURSERY, LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE
 on the Old Samson Road, in Elba

Flowering Trees	Bridal Wreath
Fruit Trees	Lady Bank Roses
Shade Trees	Evergreens
Palms \$1.00 & up	10" Basket Ferns \$5
Camellias	Pine Stray \$3
Shruballs	Fertilize
Flower Baskets	Bedding Plants
Plus Much Much More!	

Also, let Fay's give you a free estimate on any landscaping, irrigation or lawn care.

FAY'S NURSERY, LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE
 On Old Samson Rd., Elba 897-2078
 Open: 8:00-5:00 Mon-Sat
 1:30-4:30 Sunday

Project ChildSafe brings free gunlocks to area for distribution

Representatives of Project ChildSafe recently visited the Elba Police Department and delivered free cable-style gunlocks and accompanying educational materials for local citizens.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation has partnered with local law enforcement to distribute more than 250,000 free gun locks in Alabama as part of the national Project ChildSafe (PCS) initiative. PCS reminds gun owners to take steps to prevent a loaded gun from falling into the hands of a child, thereby preventing tragic accidents.

Phase Two of Project ChildSafe is funded by two grants from the U.S. Department of Justice that total \$30 million. These two grants will fund the program from Sept. 1, 2004 through Aug. 31, 2005. Phase One of Project ChildSafe was funded by a \$50 million U.S. Department of Justice grant.

The current campaign will distribute over 12 million free firearm safety kits and follows the successful Phase One distribution of 20 million firearm safety kits over the past year to all 50 states.

"There continues to be a significant demand for firearm safety education across America, and we are pleased that Project ChildSafe is able to meet that demand with millions of additional free firearm safety kits," said Doug Painter, president of the National Shooting Sports Foundation. "We are continuing to remind gun owners that their most important responsibility is to know how to safely handle and properly store firearms in the home."

In Coffee County, representatives of Project ChildSafe delivered the safety kits and educational materials to the Elba Police Department, Kinston Police Department, New Brockton Police Department and Coffee County Sheriff's Department.

For further information, visit the website at www.projectchildsafe.org.



ELBA POLICE OFFICER BRIAN LUSHER is shown holding one of the free cable-style gunlocks currently available at the police department. The gunlocks and educational materials, made available through the Project ChildSafe program, are located in the lobby of the police department.

Southern Bone & Joint Specialists

A Continuum of Orthopaedic Excellence

Minimally invasive "small incision" surgery (MIS) has gained popularity in many forms ranging from abdominal surgery to shoulder rotator cuff repair. Recent innovations in surgical technique and instrumentation now allow total joint arthroplasty to be performed through smaller incisions with less tissue dissection as well.

Currently, Drs. Fleming Brooks and Patrick Lett are on the leading edge of this trend performing MIS total hip and knee replacements. Through the use of smaller surgical windows patients are able to recover from surgery much more rapidly with less pain. "Total hip arthroplasty through a minimally invasive approach permits surgery through a much smaller incision and allows us not to disrupt many muscles and tendons that used to be sacrificed," states Dr. Lett. "We have noted a more rapid recovery with less pain and weakness. Hospital stays are shorter, and rehabilitation is easier and less painful."

The surgeons are partners in Southern Bone and Joint Specialists based in Enterprise. Adds Dr. Brooks, "I feel that with the expertise that Dr. Lett brings with him from his training at the Mayo Clinic along with the outstanding facilities, anesthesia team and internal medical staff we have here in Enterprise, we offer a level of care that is rare for a city of this size."

Dr. Brooks and Dr. Lett are currently accepting new patients at the Enterprise office and can be reached at (334)308-9797.



Fleming G. Brooks, M.D.



Patrick W. Lett, M.D.



404 N. Main St-Enterprise

334.308.9797

www.southernbone.com

TOWN

(Continued from Page One)

section.

"We can't build something out there that's going to cost people's lives," he said.

Citizens continued to insist the plan for the current road will cut New Brockton off from Elba and Enterprise, and once motorists get on the bypass, they will not get off just to come to New Brockton.

Mayor Cole said a lot of the "thru" traffic Griffin spoke of stops at the Big/Little Store in the mornings to get coffee, a biscuit, etc. He said the town will lose that business if the current Highway 84 is not left open as an alternate route.

"There's no way to build a bypass and not build a bypass," Griffin said. "When we build the bypass, that will be the main road."

While the majority of those in attendance for the town meeting seemed opposed to the current plan, there were a few who agreed with the highway depart-

ment's plan.

One resident who lives on the Enterprise side of New Brockton said he agrees with the plan because it will make things safer. He said he never even let his children ride the school bus because of the dangers of the current road.

Some continued to express their opposition to taking out small portions of the current road on both ends. They wondered why the road can't simply be left as it is to be an alternate route.

Griffin basically said it comes down to safety. He said the object is to make the road as easy as possible for those who want to travel to and around New Brockton.

"Safety is paramount in what we do," Baldwin said. "Safety is first then we look at everything else."

He said the road plan for the New Brockton area is the safest way the road can be constructed

based on the conditions.

Both Griffin and Baldwin confirmed during Monday's meeting that there will be six intersections leading into New Brockton from the bypass. Signs will clearly mark the downtown area.

"What we're trying to do is make minor changes to improve the ingress and egress of the road," Griffin said. "Minor changes and road signage is basically what we can do to help the Town of New Brockton."



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HAPPY EASTER!

The Elba Clipper

Volume 108, Number 41

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 24, 2005

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Elba chief of police position attracts nine applicants

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The City of Elba found nine individuals interested in becoming the town's next chief of police last week when the application procedure closed Friday, March 18.

Among the applicants were four Elba residents, two Enterprise residents, one Kinston resident, one Dothan resident and one Enterprise resident. They were: Donald Wayne Farris, Kinston; Stanley E. DeVane, Dothan; Freddy L.

Hanchey, Elba; Jackie O. Farmer, Elba; Michael A. Mariano, Enterprise; Maxwell Hooks, Andalusia; Michael Dean Blair, Elba; Boyd Hartzog, Enterprise; and Dalton Hendrix Francis Jr., Elba.

According to city officials, they will now begin reviewing the applications and proceed with interviews with those candidates deemed most qualified for the position. Once the interview process is completed, the mayor will make his recommendation to the Elba City Council. However, there is no set time frame on when this process will be complete.

Officials did stress that the candidate chosen to become Elba's next chief of police will be required to reside within the city limits of Elba.

The position was vacated by R.W. "Ronnie" Whitworth on Wednesday, Feb. 16, when he surprised officials with his resignation. Since that time, Freddy Hanchey has been serving as interim chief.

Southeast Alabama Community Band set to present concert at Elba High School

For the fifth consecutive year, the Southeast Alabama Community Band will present a concert at the Elba High School auditorium. This year's concert

is planned for Tuesday, March 29, at 7:30 p.m.

The band is conducted by Dr. John M. Long, director emeritus, of Troy University Band.

The community band consists of 50 musicians which include high school band directors, university music professors, two medical doctors, business-

men and retired professional musicians from all over the Southeast Alabama region.

The band will play traditional

overtures, Sousa marches and Broadway show tunes and always features outstanding soloists.

This year, the band will feature David Kirby, a minister and radio personality from WTBE, Troy. He will sing and act as Harold Hill in selections from the "Music Man" arranged by Ralph Ford.

Guest conductors will be Jeff Ellis and Tom Maddox, directors of the high school and elementary band programs in the Elba City School System.

Then band always plays a great traditional band overture.

NOTICE

The Alabama Department of Transportation informs the public that Bullard Excavating, Inc. began work on Monday, March 21, 2005 on constructing the planning, resurfacing and traffic strip on various routes in and around Opp. The length of the project is 9.174 miles in the counties of Covington and Coffee, state of Alabama. The entire project is to be completed in 45 working days. The contractor has erected advance construction warning signs to advise the traveling public of the construction work zone. Also the contractor will utilize a pilot car and portable signs to safety guide motorists through the construction work zone.

Motorists are urged to reduce speed and use caution when traveling through and around the equipment workers.

Fire Chief Harry Driggers honored by Brantley Town Council

The Town of Brantley's 20-year fire chief, Harry Driggers, seemed humbled recently by the attention he received from his community.

On Monday evening, March 7, Brantley Mayor Bernie Sullivan and the members of the town council officially named the building that houses the Brantley Volunteer Fire Department as the Harry Driggers Building.

Driggers, who is originally from Elba, recalled that when he started in the fire department at Fort Rucker, he took over a unit of men that contributed to his success as a firefighter, as well as, a chief.

Among the many guests to attend the special ceremony honoring Driggers were Crenshaw County Probate Judge Jim Perdue, Commissioner Ronnie Hudson, as well as, long time friend Winzell Gray. Gray worked under Driggers supervision in the Fort Rucker firefighters unit during Driggers' early

years as a fire chief. Commissioner Hudson presented Driggers with a proclamation declaring March 7, 2005 as Harry Driggers Day. Each of the town council members also expressed gratitude and thanks to Driggers for his years of service to the community and people of Brantley.

"I would put our volunteer fire department up against any fire department in the state," Mayor Sullivan told Driggers. "And much of that's because of you, Harry."

In Driggers' closing remarks, he said, "I couldn't have asked to serve with a better bunch of people."



This archived photo is of Brantley Fire Chief Harry Driggers and his first unit at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Those pictured include (from left): John Coon, firefighter; Opp; Alonzo Holland, firefighter; Troy; Winzell Gray, driver-operator; Elba; and Harry Driggers, crew chief, Brantley.



CHAMBER HOSTS LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST...A large crowd of interested citizens and business representative gathered at the social hall of Elba's First Baptist Church last Friday morning for a Legislative Breakfast sponsored by the Elba Chamber of Commerce. While enjoying the traditional breakfast foods prepared by The Ranch House Cafeteria, the attendees received an update from Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer regarding their Legislative session. Both Spicer and Holley reported on various matters of interest. Also attending the Legislative Breakfast were the newly crowned Miss Elba queens, Kendall Stinson, Christina Bryant, Caitlin Bradshaw and Brayton Martin.

Bethany Dye gains experience as editor of Troy University's school newspaper

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Bethany Dye found an interest in journalism during her senior year at Elba High School.

After spending that year as a member of the journalism staff, she chose to pursue a career in the field. Now, she is only months away from graduating from Troy University with a degree in print journalism/public relations.

Looking back, she said she believes hands-on experience has really helped to prepare her for that next step.

Dye was named editor of the Tropititan (also known as "The Trop") in August of 2004. She began working with the school newspaper a few years back as a reporter. Later she became the assistant news editor, which set her up to take over as editor for the current school year.

Dye has many responsibilities as editor of the newspaper. She manages a staff of 20-25 people (fellow students), oversees work on the various sections of the paper, plans stories to be assigned, runs staff meetings, works with the photo editor, handles some content editing and pagination while also taking care of general office work. Not to mention, she has to remember she is a student first and foremost.

"I pretty much do what needs to be done," she said.

Before she became a member of the Trop staff, Dye said she really had no idea of how a newspaper office operated, but it did

not take long to open her eyes.

"I've learned a lot about myself and people," she said. "You just have to be ready to do things."

She said she has found that she really enjoys newspaper work because there's always something new to do.

"You may get tired sometimes," she said. "But, you never get in a rut."

Recently Dye was among several Troy University journalism students that received recognition from the Southeast Journalism Conference.

The Troy students competed with students from 60 other schools throughout the southeast in this annual competition.

Dye entered the College Journalist of the Year category and received 10th place in the competition.



Elba's Bethany Dye looks over the most current edition of the Tropititan, the school newspaper for Troy University. Dye has been editor of "the Trop" since August 2004. She is currently a senior at Troy and will graduate with a degree in print journalism/public relations in May.

Now as she looks to the future, Dye said she wants to do something that allows her to apply the skills she has obtained.

"I want to be doing something that is challenging and benefiting to people," she said.

REMINDER

Chapter Four of "The Assignment" is located on Page 2 in this week's edition of The Elba Clipper.

Jobs available with two Wiregrass manufacturers

A new custom countertop manufacturer in Samson and an automotive supplier in Elba have jobs available for Wiregrass residents. Job seekers for each location must complete AIDT training to be considered for employment.

The Samson Stone Company

Inc. is seeking fabricators and installers for its soon-to-open facility in Geneva County that will supply countertops for the housing and condominium markets in the Gulf Coast region from Tallahassee, Florida, to Mobile. The company will employ approximately 15 people when fully operational.

Toledo Molding and Die Inc. in Elba specializes in injection and blow molding plastic parts and assembly of automotive HVAC components, duct systems, and air induction systems. AIDT training applications are available at the Alabama Career Centers in Enterprise at 2021 Boll Weevil Circle and in Andalusia at 312 West Gate Plaza. Training applications for The Samson Stone Company jobs are also available at Samson City Hall at 104 East Main Street. Training applications for Toledo Molding and Die are also available at the plant at 275 Highway 203 (State Road 189) in Elba.

AIDT training programs are conducted at night to allow trainees to continue working at their current jobs. Training is provided at no cost to trainees and trainees are not paid while enrolled. Employment is not

Area Happenings

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME will hold meetings of the Elba Pre-Post Gate Bypass Support Group each Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Hospital Conference Room. For more information contact Cindy Murphy CDM, CFPF at 334/897-2257, Ext. 297, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

THE ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEMS will sponsor a Money Matters workshop Tuesday, March 29, at the Coffee County Farm Center's community room in New Brockton. The morning session will be from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. and the evening session will be from 5:30 - 8 p.m. Various topics will include preventing elder financial abuse, seven things to do with \$20, avoiding financial pitfalls, protecting your money and investments wisely and hidden credit problems. There will be no charge for the workshop, and lunch and dinner will be served. To make reservations, call the Coffee County Extension Office at (334) 894-3596 no later than Friday, March 25.

THE 2005 MISS ZION CHAPEL PAGEANTS, sponsored by Altus International Inc. of Jacksonville, Ala., will be held Saturday, April 9, at 6 p.m. at the Zion Chapel auditorium. Pageant categories will include Future Little Miss, Little Miss, Junior Miss and Miss Zion Chapel.

Please See JOBS, Page 3

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